

Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116
Examining Group 2822
Expedited Procedure

REMARKS


Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

In the November 2, 2005 Final Office Action, the Examiner finalized the rejections to claims 1-6, 8-11, and 13-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for alleged indefiniteness. Specifically, the Examiner asserted that claim 1, from which claims 2-6, 8-11, and 13-18 depend, is ambiguous because the antecedent basis for the recited term "said layer" in claim 1 is unclear and because there lacks antecedent basis for the recited phrase "said at least one metallic element" in claim 1.

In response, Applicants have hereby amended claim 1 to recite "a terminal layer," which provides antecedent basis for the phrase "said terminal layer" subsequently recited by claim 1. Further, Applicants have hereby amended claim 1 to recite "said at least metallic component," which refers back to the "at least one metallic component" previously recited by claim 1.

Therefore, the Examiner's indefiniteness rejection to claims 1-6, 8-11, and 13-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph is overcome by the above-mentioned claim amendments.

Respectfully submitted,



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